

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 37
By Goins

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Ralph and Bonnie Keck on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as examples for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on the tenth day of March in 1951, Ralph Keck and Bonnie Sweet were joined in holy matrimony by the Justice of the Peace in Morristown, and, since that fateful day, this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, the newlywed Kecks were well-prepared for a long and fruitful marriage, as they had the fine examples of the faithful marriages of their parents around which to pattern their life together; Mr. and Mrs. Keck have lived up to the sterling example of their respective parents, the late Ronda and Francie Keck and the late Charlie and Nola Sweet; and

WHEREAS, Ralph and Bonnie Keck have been highly respected citizens of the New Tazewell community for over fifty years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ralph Keck served with acumen and alacrity as an employee of the Tennessee Department of Transportation for thirty years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the outstanding quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, before taking a well-earned retirement, Mrs. Bonnie Keck was a dependable and praiseworthy worker of the utmost ability for Donlin Sportswear, Signal Knitting, and DeRoyal; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's admirable marriage has produced two children, Ronald Keck and Karen Estes, each of whom has excelled in his or her particular field of endeavor; Mr. and Mrs. Keck are devoted and caring parents who have expended every effort to encourage the success and happiness of their children; and

WHEREAS, the Kecks are also the loving grandparents of three grandchildren, Casey, Kari, and Krissi, who have been the source of many happy and proud moments for their grandparents; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; these admirable qualities have been nurtured and displayed throughout their many years of attendance at the M.C.M. Missionary Baptist Church, where their active and dedicated membership has been an inspiration to many; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple continues to enjoy one another's companionship and share many happy moments while fishing or spending time with the family whom they love so dearly; many more joyful moments are enjoyed as they work side-by-side on their Mountain Road farm, a most appropriate setting, since it was beside a fence post that Ralph proposed marriage to his beloved Bonnie more than fifty years ago; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Kecks are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Ralph and Bonnie Keck on the celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.